

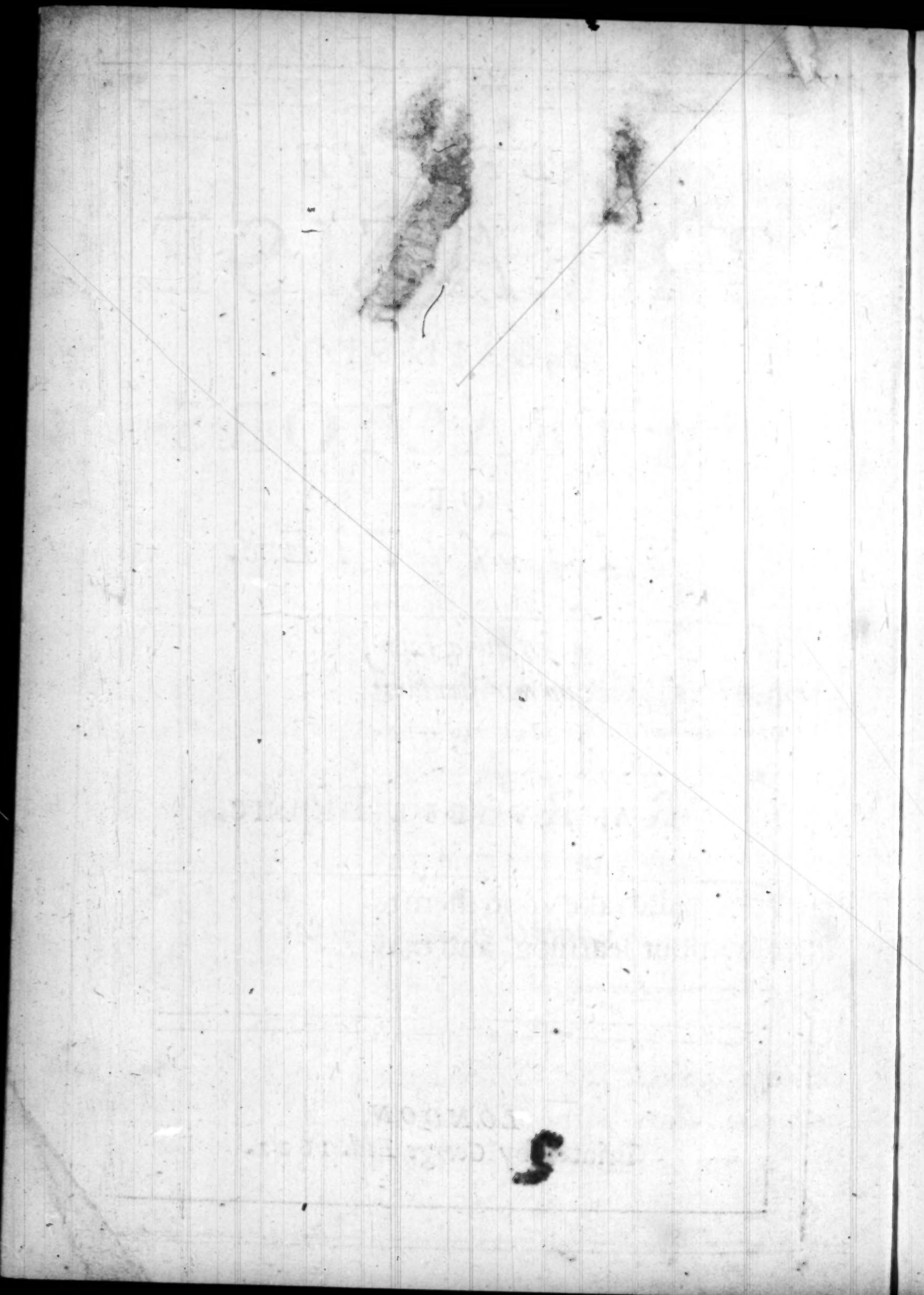
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A BRIEFE
TREATISE
AGAINST
DETRACTORS
OF
DIGNITIES.

Published
BY
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AGAINST
DETRACTORS
OF DIGNITIES.



Imium admiror cve-
stram hanc insolentiam, eo quod sapi-
entium ministerium,
& gradus cysurpas-
tis, sapientiae autem studium, & ope-
ram neglexistis; It was a saying of
King *Ælfreda*'s vnto certaine per-
sons, which did take vpon them to
iudge without learning, and may
be well applied to those, who que-
stion *Dignities*, and presume to
censure *Statum & Dignitatem Baro-
netorum*, thus without any true
Precedent, or ground. It is shewed

Tho:Walsingham pag.21 n.30.

The Booke published by his
Maiestie, touching the creation
of Baronets, pag. 19. printed 1611.

in the booke published by his Maiestie touching the Creation of Baronets: *That there is nothing of honor, or value, which is sought, or desired (be the motives never so good)* but may receive scandal from some, who wanting the same good affection to the publique, or being in other considerations incapable, can be contented out of envy to those, that are so preferred, to cast aspersions and imputations upon them: And out of which of these, or whether from them all this proceeds I know not: but certaine I am, great was their error, to reach at prerogatives so transcendent, and of this high mysterie: when as no Democraticall gouernment could ever ascend vnto it, it being an Imperiall right, due onely to Monarchs to dispose of Dignities. *Est ius Regalium, vel ius Imperij, creandi Magistratus, dandi Insignia Nobilitatis, sive Nobiles creandi,*

andi, ad famam & honores restituendi: Regnerius Sixtinus de Iure Rega:
 And herewith agrees the Act of
 31. of King H: 8. That it appertai-
 neth to the Kings Prerogative Royall
 to give such honor, reputation, and
 place as to his most excellent wisdome
 shall seeme meet. Wherein his Ma-
 iestie hath that absolute power,
 that if it had pleased his Highnes,
 there might haue beene as well in-
 serted the like Clause in their Let-
 ters Patents, for the Creation of
 this Dignity, as was formerly in a
 Charter made by his Royall Aun-
 cester King H: 7. sc^t. *Quod Rex non*
vult arguendum, communicandum, aut
disputandum, per quoscunq^z. The
 which followeth the opinion of
 Bracton, Iustice, in the time of King
 H: 3. sc^t. *De Chartis Regijs, & factis*
Regum, non debent, nec possunt priva-
ta personae disputare. And that it is
 against the duty of a subiect, to de-
 teriorate

Stat: 31. H: 8. cap: 10.

See also Smiths Common wealth
 of England, pag: 28. & 48. accord

2. Parte Patent: anno 1. H: 7.
 memb. 21.

Bracton f: 6. & f: 34.

The Mirror of Justice, cap. 5.

See the Stat: 36. E: 3. cap: 16.
The care had for preseruation
of the rights of the Crowne.

Math: 2.
Dier f: 94.
Selden Hon: pag: 208.
Co: li: 7.f.33.
Ranulphus of Chester f: 387.
Camden Brit: pag: 165. & 167.

Davis Report: f: 60.
Co: li: 9.f: 124.

teriorate his *Highnes Prerogative*. See the *Mirror of Justice*, that by the auncient Common Law of England, It was held a *crime against Maiestie*: And that he was perjur'd against the oath of a Subiect, who did any way subtract, or diminish the Rights, or *Prerogatives of the King*: Yet that these nevertheless will impugne his *Maiesties Prerogative*, and disable his *Highnes* in that power his Royall Progenitors had: This shewes they did not as the wise men of the East, (in *Math. 2.*) follow the right starre. Did not King *E: 3.* create *Dukes*, and King *R: 2.* *Marqueffes* to be hereditary *Dignities*, to precede, and goe before *Earles*, and *Barons*, that were farre auncienter? Did not afterwards King *H: 6.* create *Viscount's* to be an hereditary *Dignity* likewise, and gave them the place and precedency of *Barons*? Was not

not also the Institution of the Order of the Garter, and Banneret's created by E: 3. and Knights of the Bath by H: 6. to take place of Knights Bachelors? and yet were they subsequent Dignities vnto them. And hath not the place beene ever given at the Prince his pleasure, and sometimes the Precedencie before them of the same degree, though they were after them created. *Vide Rot: Parl: 23. H:6.* where King H: 6. granted to *Henry Earle of Warwicke*, this Preeminenceto be the first, and chiefe Earle of England, and to carry this Style, sc^t. *Henricus Praecomes totius Angliae, & Comes Warwici*, and afterwards created him *Duke of Warwick*, and by these expresse words of his Patent, granted that hee should take his place in Parliament, and elsewhere, next vnto the *Duke of Norfolke*, and before

Smiths Common-wealth, pag. 25.
Camden Brit. pag. 171. 172.
Selden Hon. pag. 353. 359. 362.

Mils pag. 24.

Ch. a. 23. H. 6. memb. 26. n. 24.
See *Camden Brit.* pag. 570.

And it appeares in the *Ch. a. ab anno 27. usq; 37. H. 6. n. 24. & Orig. 31. H. 6. Rot. 27.* That afterwards H. 6. created *Edmond Hadham Earle of Richmond*, and to take his place as the first Earle of England.

Camden Brit. pag. 570.

Ch. 25. & 26. H. 6. memb. 31.

Bille signata anno 21. & 22. H. 8.

Pat. 18. H. 6. parte 2. memb. 20.
& 23. H. 6.

This was the first honorary, and
hereditary Viscount after the
Conquest.

2. Parte Pat. an. 1. E. 4. memb. 13.

See also Selden. Hon. pag. 283.

Pat. anno 5. H. 3. memb. 5.

the Duke of Buckingham: Vide 25.
& 26. H: 6. Humfridus Stafford
Dux Buckingham, quod sit primus
Ducum in Anglia. See 21. & 22. H: 8.
a Grante to Anne Rochford of the
Dignitie of Marchionesse of Pen-
broke, to take ber place before all of
her ranck, excepting the Kings Issue:
Vide 18. H: 6. Rex 12° die Februarij
concessit Iohanni Domino de Beau-
mont, nomen Vicecomitis de Beau-
mont, cum 20. marcis percipiendis
annuatim sibi, & hæredibus suis ma-
sculis; & quod habeat locum ante,
& supra omnes Vicecomites fiendos,
sive creandos, & hæredes, & filios
omnium Comitum, ac sedem, & hono-
rē immediate, & proxime Comitibus
regni Angliae, in Parliamētis: &c. Vide
a: 1. E: 4 Robertus Botill Prior Ho-
spitalis sancti Iohannis Ierusalem. in
Anglia, primus Baro Regni Angliae,
&c. Et vide a: 5. H: 3. Rex &c. sa-
lutem: Obtentu dilecti Militis nostri
Domini

Domini Rogeri de Leyburne, volentes ipsum propter ipsius gratiam merita, & accepta servitia culmini nostro gratanter impensa benigno favore prosequi, & dilectione; universitatem vestram affectuose rogamus, quatenus ipsum ubi cunq; locorum, de cetero tanquam nostrum Militem ob nostram reverentiam honore debito velitis prosequi, & gratia speciali, &c. Hath not his Maiestie the like power? And wherein is this creation of Baronets more grievous, and hurtfull, then those former hereditary Dignities were? Was there ever any exception taken to them? No not any. It is said onely that King R:2. made John of Beaufort sonne to John of Gaunt, and Earle of Somerset Marquesse of Dorset; of which hee was afterwards deprived by King H:4. And when a Petition was in Parliament by the Commons for his restitucion, hee

Camden Brit. pag. 165. & 217.

Selden Hon. pag. 217.

most humbly prayed the King, that in regard the name of Marquesse was a strange name in this Kingdome, that hee would not restore him to it, neyther would hee willingly accept thereof: which for your better satisfaction herein, there is here exemplified the Record it selfe, *in hac verba, sc^t.*

Rotulo Parliamenti, a:4. H:4. n:18.

Le lundy le 6. jour de Novemb. les Commons viendrent devant le Roi, & les Sn^{rs}. en Parlement, & entre autres choses, et matires illoques monstrez, et parlez; Mesme les Commons humblament recommandantz les bone, et honorable port, et governance del Conte de Somerset, prirent au Roi, que mesme le Conte, purroit estre restore a ses mosme, et honour de Marquis, queux il avoit per devant, de quel prier, le Roi, et le Sn^{rs}. enuntierent les dits Coës. Et le Roi lour desoit quil voiloit estre avise, et ent faire

faire ceo que luy sembleroit pur le
mieux touchant cel matire, Et sur
ceo le dit Conte engenulant, mult hum-
blament pria au Roi, que comme le
nosme de Marquis feust estrange
nosme en cest Roialme, quil ne luy
voiloit ascunement doner cel nosme
de Marquis; quar jammais per con-
gie du Roi il ne voiloit porter n'ac-
cepter sur luy nul tiel nosme, en a-
scun manner: mais nient meins le
Conte molt cordialment remercia les
Sn^rs. et les Coës de lour bone coers,
et volente en celle partie. And
herewithall whosoever will ob-
serve: first how the said John of
Beaufort Earle of Somerset obtai-
ned this Dignitie of Marques a:21.
R:2. Secondly, that in Parliam^t a:

1. H: 4. He was theric dishonored,
& deprived of this Dignity. Lastly,
the Kings answer to his said Petiti-
on made by the intercession of the
Commons in Parliament, a:4. H:4

Rot. Parl. anno 21. R. 2.

Rot. Parl. anno 1. H. 4.

Rot. Parl. a. 4. H. 4.

That

That hee would be advised, and doe that which should seeme vnto him the best in that behalfe ; hee may then plainly discerne, in what manner hee did refuse it. Yet admit he did, what will they conclude of this, that because one hath no stomack, therefore others must fast also : I thinke few will like of this reason. And though in distribution of *Honors*, his Maiesie is not limited, or tyed to Precedent , but being the fountaine of *Honor* may create what *Dignities* he pleaseth, and may as well conferre *Honors* vpon any man, as he may give value , or worth to any mettall to make it of esteeme , and current : Yet it is easie to prove (what opinions soever there are to the contrary) that the name of *Baronet* is no strange name in this Kingdome. *Vide temp. E. 3. Thomas de Bradeston per Regem E: 3. 15. Octobris*

Davis Reports f. 25.

*Camden Brit. pag. 171.
Selden Hon. pag. 354. & 355.*

*13 E. 3. and appeareth, clans.
de anno 15. E. 4. memb. 11. pro
Willō. Norreys Milite liberate.*

bris anno regni sui 13. factus Baronettus; cui, ut ipse statum Baronetti eo decentius manuteneret queat, Rex dedit 500. marcas annuas habendas sibi, &c. See also the printed Stat: of 13. R:2. ca:1. & 14. R:2. ca:11. for Baronets, & vide anno 24. H:6. Rex 18. die Septembris concessit Raimundo de Pys Baronet Capitan: & balliagium de Sauveterre, habend' pro termino vita sua ad valorem 4.li. per annum. See also the booke-case of 35. H:6. for Baronet. It appears also by certaine Court-rolls, and Evidences in E:4. time, that one Sir William Craiford of Mungham in Kent, had then, and therein, the title, and addition of Baronet. Vide 4. & 5. H:8. Rex Omnibus ad quos, &c. salutem. Sciat is quod nos de fidelitate, providentia, strenuitate, et industria, diligentiaq; et experientia, ac integritate charissimi Consanguinei, et Confiliarij nostri

Georgij

2. Stat. 13. R. 2. cap. 1. & 14. R. 2. cap. 11.

Originale de anno 24. H. 6. Rot. 31. Aquitan.

35. H. 6. f. 46.

Temp. E. 4. These remaine in the hands of one M^r. Gittins of Burntwood in Essex.

Bille signata annis 4. & 5. H. 8.

See also Holinshed Chron. pag. n. (his 3. volume for 322. 49. a. Baronets. 331. 30. b. Baronets. 359. 60. a. Baronets. 373. 60. a. Baronets. 384. 10. a. Baronets. 865. 10. b. Baronets.

Georgij Comitis Salop: Senescalli Hos-
pitij nostri, ac Militis Ordinis nostri
Garterij plurimum confidentes: eun-
dem locum tenentem nostrum genera-
lem, Ducemque primarium, & guber-
nacorem totius prime aciei, et exer-
citus, ac Armata nostrae, favente al-
tissimo, ad partes exter as profectura,
ac omnium, et singulorum Capitane-
orum, vicecapitaneorum, et locate-
nentium, Baronum, Baronettorum
constituimus, &c. vide 4. E. 6. Rex
&c. Cum in consideratione fidelis, et
acceptabilis servitij nobis per dilectū
servientem nostrum Radul: Fane
Militem in guerris nostris, quam ali-
ter antehac facti, et impensi, idem
Radus ad Statum, Gradum, Hono-
rem, et Dignitatem Baronetti per nos
erectus, suscitatus, et creatus exte-
rit, &c. Et vide 1. Maria; Williel-
mus Howard Miles Dominus Ho-
ward de Effingham, magnus Admi-
rallus Anglia, Wallia, Hibernia,
Normannia,

Billa signata anno 4. E. 6. & O-
riginale de eodem anno, Rot. 20.
& 9. parte Paten. 4. E. 6.

Billa signata anno 1. Maria Re-
gina.

Normanniae, Gasconiae, et Aquitaniae
fit locum-tenens generalis; Duxq;
primarius, et Gubernator totius Clas-
sis armatae nostrae regiae, in quibus cunq;
partibus super mare, ad tuitionem, et
defensionem Amicorum nostrorum pro-
fectura, ac omnium, et singulorū Na-
vium, Capitanorum, et locum-tenen-
tium, Baronum, Baronettorum, &c.
Yet notwithstanding the testimo-
ny of these, and others, I will not
affirme, that the distinct, and here-
ditary Dignity of Baronets was ever
knowne vnto vs, before the Crea-
tion of them by our present Sov-
raigne: For I am not ignorant of
the opinions of the learned con-
cerning the former, that Baronu-
lus, Baronetus, et Baneretus, were
aunciently all one, and were pro-
miscuously vsed for Banerets. Tou-
ching this kinde of hereditary
Knighthood, which (say they)
was never before heard of, see the

See 2. Stat. 5. R. 2. c. 4. in the
Abridgements of Stat. for Ba-
ronet, and in the Stat. at large
Baneret, and yee shall also finde
the same person in one and the
selfe-same Record, somtimes
written Baronet, and somtimes
Baneret. For which see that of
Bradeston, 13. E.3.

See Mils pag. 24. that there are
hereditary Knights at this day
in Italy.

Rot. *Vascon* 13. E. 3. memb 13.
For this also you haue an Au-
thor entituled, *The Treasury of*
Times, pag. 527. herewith con-
curring.
And it is further proved ex
claus. 7. R. 2. memb. 32. in dorso.

Math. Paris pag. 1249.

Stat. 1. E. 2.

7. H. 6. f. 14. 15.

See *Camdens Brit.* pag. 174.

That they fined for not being
knighted. See also *Selden Hon.*
pag. 319. 320.

Vide Dorso clausarum de anno 3.
H. 3. memb. 24. *Quisquis Laicus*
plene aetatis, qui feodum unius Mi-
litis tenet, & Miles non est, arma
capiat, & se Milium fieri faciat,
sicut feodum vel feoda sua diligit.

Selden Hon. pag 321. 322.

Roger Hoveden pag 611. 614.

Patents in 13. E: 3. vnto *William de*
la Pole, and the like vnto *Bradeston*;
which sheweth that *Banerets* were
then hereditary, & that for main-
tenance of their Dignity, lands
were given vnto them and their
heires. And our auncient feoda-
ry Knights, here in *England*, were
in a manner hereditary: For, if a
Knights fee which was 20. li. land
per annum, had descended vnto one,
he was compellable to take, and it
seemeth, of right might have de-
manded a Knighthood, and also
the armes, & equipage of Knighthood,
which belonged to a
Knights Fee; That is to say, *His*
Horse, Speare, Sword, and Target
was to descend vnto the heire, and
not to goe to the executors, as it is
of other personall things. For this
reade likewise *Roger Hoveden*. *The*
Constitutions under King H: 2. sc: 1.
Quicunq; habet Feodum unius Militis,
210937.9 *habeat*

habeat loricam, et Cassidem, & clypeum, & lanceam, & omnis Miles habeat tot loricas, cassides, clypeos, & lanceas quot habuerit feoda Militum in Dominio suo, & si quis hæc habens arma obierit, arma sua remaneant hæredi suo, & si hæres de tali etate non sit, quod armis vti possit, si opus fuerit, ille eum qui habebit in custodia, habeat similiter custodiam armorum, & inveniat hominem, qui armis vti possit in servitio Domini Regis, si opus fuerit, donec hæres de tali etate sit, quod arma portare possit, tunc ea habeat. By which also, as by this that followeth out of Bracton, and others, it appeareth, that from our auncient Nobilitie arose the principall strength, and fæsegard of this Land, (who wri-
teth thus of those that were in his time,) Comites, quia à Comitatu, sive societate nomen sumpserunt, qui etiam dici possunt Consules à consulendo,

See Ranulphus f. 61, and in the end of the old Mag. Char. f. 168, and Selden Hon. pag. 278. That of these Knights fees, there were aunciently in this Kingdome many thousands, and of Baronies 250. at one time.

Vide Fletali. 9. ca. 9.

Bracton fol. 5.

Vide Rot. Parl. anno 21. R. 2. viz.
Pur ceo que le greinder supportation de chescun Realme consiste des dignes person's de state, & de honnor que purront enforcer, & fortifier le Scepter du Roi, &c.

See also the Preambles of Letters Patents for creation of Dignities accord.

Reges enim tales sibi associant, ad consulendum, & regendum populum Dei, ordinantes eos in magno honore, potestate, & nomine, quando accingunt eos gladiis : Gladius autem significat defensionem Regni, & Patriæ : Sunt & alij Potentes sub Rege, qui dicuntur Barones, hoc est Robur belli : Sunt & sub Rege Milites, sc̄. ad Militiam exercendam electi, ut cum Rege, & superdictis militent, & defendant Patriam, & Populum Dei, &c. And as you haue heard how by these Dignities, and Persons of Honor, this Kingdome was aunciently fortified, and defended, so shall you likewise finde, that by this encrease of Dignitie, there will be an increase of strength to the Common-wealth ; and that these will be eminent, wheras others peradventure of greater abilitie, will neyther desire, nor deserve Honor,

Vide Hotoman, li. 1. Feud. Tit. 1. §. 1. & tit. 7. Alij sunt Capitanei Regni, quo verbo Dukes, Comites, Marchiones, intelliguntur.

Vide Bracton, li. 2. ca. 34. f. 76. Nisi capitale Mesuagium illud sit caput Baronie propter ius Gladij, &c.

See Camden Brit. pag. 175. Knight aunciently the name of charge, and function.

Vide Iohann. Basanum, li. 2. pag. 125. Sicut Cælum stellæ, sic terra Nobilibus, & heroicis personis insignitur.

Honor, but rather seeke obscurite to shunne the charges of the Common-wcale ; then be discovered, vpon the A^t of 33. of King H: 8. to finde Armes for defence of their Countrie, though it were in time of greatest necessitie. And that the publique good is advanced by this addition of *Honor*, heare also the opinion of a principall Secretary to King E: 6. who holds, that the more *Dignities* there are, the better it is for the Common-wealth : For saith hee, the Gentleman is more charged then the Yeoman, which hee beareth the gladlier, and darc not gainesay it, for to save, and keepe his honor , and reputa-
tion, and in any Shew, or Muster, or other particular Charge of the place wherein hee is resident , as for the poore , or otherwise, hee opens his purse wider,

By this A^t of 33. H. 8. ca. 5.
Certaine persons nobled are to finde a horse for service, & such whose wives shall weare , any silke, or Velvet, gold, pearle, or precious stone.

Smiths Common-wealth of Engl.
pag. 29.

wider, and augments his portion aboue others, or else he doth diminish his reputation. For this you may reade him at large. To returne to the matter, and to answer him who holds that this *Dignity of Baronets* is against the Law, because no hereditary *Dignity* (as hee would haue it) can be entailed within the *Statute of Westm^r. 2.* but it must haue relation to a *Realtie*, and haue lands to goe therewith: I confess his opinion may well agree with the phrase in our writs; *Quod injuste, et sine judicio cepit, &c.* And according to this vaine runs his tongue, but not with the Law: For vnlesse it were by him, it was never so adjudged: And hee may learne thus much, that constructions of *Dignities* are not alwaies taken according to the strict rules of the *Common-Law*: Nor if you are to try the right of a *Dignity*, shall

Stat. *Westm^r. 2. ca. 1.*

Register of Writs, f. 196.
F. *no. br. f. 177.*

See *Co. li. 7. f. 33.*

shall it be tryed by Iury; neyther doe the Maximes, or grounds in Law, hold in matter of Honor, for there is no copercenary of a Dignity; nor haue you a Tenant by the courtesie of a Dignity: neyther is there *Possessio fratriis* of a Dignity: No more can a Dignity be transferred, though it be given to a man and to his heires. And whereas it is obiected, that *Baronets* being an hereditary Dignity, if they fall into poverty, they and their heires shall notwithstanding take the place of Knights. I answer, that this is a chance incident vnto all *Dignities*, and to Knighthood also: yet that there is a remedy for this, and the like grievance, they may vnderstand, that if the possessions of any persons nobled are so decayed, that they haue not wherewith to support their Dignity, there is a meanes to deprive them

Co. li 11. f. 1.

Mils pag. 71.

Vide Rot. Parl. apud Westm^r. anno 27. H. 6. memb. 4. Art. 18.

Bracton li. 2. cap. 34. f. 76.

Mils pag. 27.

See also the Customes of Normandy, f. 120.

Mils pag. 76.

Co. li. 3. f. 42.

Smiths Common-wealth of England, pag. 21.22.

Mils pag. 29.

them of it. See how in 17. E: 4.
John Marques Montague, and George Duke of Bedford, were by A^tt of Parliament degraded of all honorable Titles in these words, sc^t.
*Whereas afore this time, the King our Soveraigne Lord, for the great love, and zeale he bare to *John Nevill*, late named Marques Montague, and other considerations him moving, did erect and make *George Nevill* the eldest sonne of the said Marques, to be Duke of Bedford :*
*And at that time, for the great love, that his said Highnes bare to the said *John Nevill*, purposed, and intended to haue given to the said *George* for sustentation of the same Dignity sufficient livelihood : and for the great offences, vnkindnes, and misbehavings that the said *John Nevill* hath done, and committed to his said Highnes (as is openly knowne) hee hath no cause*

to

to depart any livelihood vnto the said *George*: And forasmuch as it is openly knowne, that the said *George* hath not, nor by inheritance may have any Livelihood to support the said *Name, Estate, and Dignity*, or any name of Estate. And oftentimes it is seene, that when any Lord is called to high estate, and hath not livelihood conveniently to support the said *Dignitie*, it induceth great povertie, and indigence, and causeth oftentimes great extortion, embracery, and maintenance to be had, to the great trouble of all such Countries, where such Estate shall happen to inhabit: Wherefore the King by the advice, and consent of his Lords, spirituall, & temporall, and of the Commons of this present Parliament assembled, and by the au&toritie of the same, hath ordained, established,

D and

and enacted, that from henceforth the said erection, and making of Duke, and all the names of Dignity given to the said George, or to the said John Nevill his father, be from henceforth void, and of none effect: And that the said George, and his heires, from henceforth be no Dukes, nor Marquesses, Earles, nor Barons, for no erection, or creation before made: But that the name of Duke, and Marques, Earle, and Baron, in him, and his heires, cease, and be void, and of none effect (the said Erection, or Creation notwithstanding. Yee shall also reade in Nevils Case reported of by Sir Edw: Coke, that, As in auncient times the Senators of Rome were elected à Censu, of their Revenues: so, in former times in conferring of Nobilitie here with vs; there was respect had vnto their Revenues, by which

Co. li. 7. f. 33. & 34.
Quinetiam si posteaquam electus
esset Senator Censum labefactasset,
Ordinem amitteret. Sigenius de
antiquo iure Civium Rom. li. 2. ca. 2.

which their *Dignitie* and *Nobilitie* might be supported, and maintained; through the want whereof great mischiefe may ensue: For no *Capias* lyeth against a Lord of the Parliament, in that the Law presumes he hath sufficient freehold *ad sustinendum nomen, & onus*, and wherewith to satisfie eyther debt, or trespass; the which wanting, all remedy in such case faileth: Therefore Antiquitie hath set downe a *Competencie* of livelihood for these degrees following, sc^t. 12. Plough-lands for a Knights fee, as sufficient to maintaine the degree of Knighthood: 13. Knights fees to be a convenient living for a Baron: 20. for an Earle: 26. for a Marques: 40. for a Duke. According to which, his Maiestie hath likewise beene pleased to set downe the revenue of a *Baronet*, to be 1000. li. land *per annum* de-

Britton f. 68. 29. E. 3. f. 42.
11. H. 4. f. 15. 1. H. 5. f. 14.
14. H. 6. f. 2. Co. li. 6. f. 52.

Id solum privilegium habent Nobiles a regibus in gratificationem obsequium Reipublicæ. Molin.
Tract. 2. pag. 1455.

Co. li. 9. f. 124.

Co. li. 7. f. 33. & 34.

The Booke published by his
Maiestie touching Baronets,
pag. 17. printed 1611.

Lamb. Peramb. pag. 368.

Qui utiliter, & decenter Magistrat' fungi debent, sint divites bonis animi, doctrinae, iustitiae, sapientiae, pietatis auro abundant. Plato lib. 7. de Repub.

Fulbeck li. ult. ca. 9. f. 67.

See Stat. 18. H. 6. ca. 11. 9. E. 2.
4. E. 3. 9. 5. E. 3. 4. 14. E. 3.
8. 1. H. 8. 8. 3. H. 8. 2. 35. H.
8. 6. 2. E. 6. 32. & Stat. 27.
Eliz. cap. 6.

Register of Writs, f. 178.
12. H. 7. f. 4.

claro, of Inheritance, whereof two parts at the least to be in possession, and the third in reversion. And though true it is, that, *Vtilior est sapientia cum divitijs conjuncta*: Yet it is not hereby intended, that vertue is measured by the acre, or that it consists in riches: For strength is not alwayes found by greatness, nor in multitude, no more is inward ability by outward wealth: Nor were those Lawes which require freehold in Justices, Shierieves, Coroners, Escheators, Iurors, and Bailiffes of Liberties, made out of any other respects, then meerly to the end, that if these transgresse in their office, or duty, they should render satisfaction for it, as well by their estates, as otherwise. To conclude, seeing it is his Highnes pleasure to create this Dignity, and in that, it is lawfully granted, and is no way more preiudicious

preiudicious in the continuance, then any other former hereditary Dignity is, or hath beene: And it so being, that his Maisticie, who is the chiefe Judge of vertue, and merit, is pleased to esteeme them worthy of this Dignity, it is not for you nor any then to dispute it. See Sir Drue Duries Case, that if the King knighteth one within age: who is vnable to doe Knights service, *Tout's sont conclude à dira le contrarie de ceo, pur ceo, quant le Roi, que est le souverain, & supreme Judge de Chivalrie, ad dubbe luy Chivaler; il per ceo ad adiudge luy able.* See likewise the auncient Lawes of this Land, both before, and since the Conquest; and also the Civill-Law, against traducing of Honor, or Worship. And see 2. of Peter 2. 10. *Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speake evill of Dignities.* See Camdens Remaines pag. 138.

mains,

co. li. 6. f. 73. 74.

See Ranulphus f. 61.
Saxon in his description of England, cap. 71. Britton f. 49. b.
Bal. L. Obser. Petrus Geral. in suis Singular. 33.

2. Pet. 2. 10. in the last Translation. Jude 8.

camdens Remaines pag. 138.

Codicis Theodos. li. 6. Tit. 5.

mains, or in the Code of Theodosius;
Tit. Vt Dignitatum ordo servetur:
Si quis indebitum sibi locum usurpa-
verit, nulla se ignoratione defendat,
sic plane sacrilegij rens.

FINIS.

